



Brownfields 2004 Grant Fact Sheet

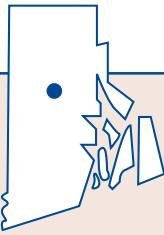
Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, the President signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant and a revolving loan fund grant. The state's population is 1,048,319. Rhode Island's role in the industrial revolution has left the state with many vacant, abandoned, and contaminated textile mills and factories. The state has an estimated 300 brownfields, most of which are in areas with high poverty rates and urban blight. Rhode Island's manufacturing base has steadily eroded, resulting in the loss of 25,000 private sector jobs between 1992 and 2002. The state-wide unemployment rate is the second highest unemploy-



Assessment Grant

New
2004

\$200,000 for hazardous substances
\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds and petroleum assessment grant funds will both be used to perform Phase I, II, and III assessments at sites throughout the state's 39 municipalities. Grant funds also will be used for community outreach activities.

Revolving Loan Fund Grant

New
2004

\$600,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation to receive a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. Funds will be used to capitalize a revolving loan fund from which the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, in partnership with the City of East Providence, will provide loans and subgrants to sites contaminated with petroleum in the state's 39 municipalities.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team

617-918-1221

<http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation
401-222-2601

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, the activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

ment rate in New England. In the last 20 years, the target area of East Providence, with a population of 48,688, has experienced a decline in population, labor force, and employment by major industry. Brownfields redevelopment in East Providence is expected to create jobs, increase the tax base, and act as a catalyst for private investment. Brownfields redevelopment throughout the state is expected to reuse sites, remove contaminants, create greenspace, and address historic preservation and smart growth issues.